

REMARKS

The Amendments

The claims are amended to direct them to the apparently indicated allowable subject matter in the Advisory Action mailed February 27, 2007. The amendments do not raise new issues or present new matter and do not present additional claims. The amendments were not earlier presented because the apparent indication of allowability was first made in the Advisory Action. Accordingly, it is submitted that the requested amendments should be entered.

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuing and/or divisional applications directed to any subject matter disclosed in the application which has been canceled by any of the above amendments.

The Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

The rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103, as being obvious over WO 02/45703 (WO 02) and WO 00/75114 (WO 00) is respectfully traversed.

The Advisory Action states on the Continuation sheet that "the showing in the affidavit [the Declarations of Dr. Pieper] shows unexpected results for the combination of tiotropium 1 and compounds of formula 2' wherein R1 and R2 are H and R3 and R4 are ethyl." Applicants have amended their claims to precisely this subject matter for which unexpected results have been shown. It is urged that the showing of unexpected results clearly and convincingly proves the nonobviousness of applicants' invention over the cited prior art. The reasons given in the Request for Reconsideration filed January 26, 2007, remain fully applicable. In view of the amendments and these remarks, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 should be withdrawn.

It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. But the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any unresolved matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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